

What is claimed is:

1. A system for recording and delivering information, the system comprising:
a communications interface; and
a controller computer being linked with the communications interface, the controller

5 computer having:

a database to store the information recorded by an information provider;

a first logic unit linked with the database to establish via the communications interface a first communication connection with the information provider over which the information provider records the information; and

10 a second logic unit linked with the database to establish, in response to a user selecting to receive the information and via the communications interface, a second communications connection with the user and to deliver the information via the second communications connection to the user.

2. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the database further stores a
15 description of the information.

3. The system as described in claim 2, wherein the controller computer further has a third logic unit linked with the database to establish a computer connection with an information provider computer and to receive via the computer connection the description from the information provider.

20 4. The system as described in claim 3, wherein the computer connection is established through a web site accessible by the information provider computer.

5. The system as described in claim 2, wherein the controller computer further has a third logic unit linked with the database to establish a computer connection with a user computer and to deliver the description to the user computer via the computer connection.

25 6. The system as described in claim 5, wherein the computer connection is established through a web site accessible by the user computer.

7. The system as described in claim 2, wherein the description includes a price for the information.

8. The system as described in claim 7, wherein the price includes a rate per
30 period of time.

9. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the first communications connection includes an audio connection.

10. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the first communications connection includes a video connection.

11. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the first communications connection is established over a computer network.

5 12. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the first communications connection is established over a telephone network.

13. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the second communications connection includes an audio connection.

10 14. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the second communications connection includes a video connection.

15. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the second communications connection is established over a computer network.

16. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the second communications connection is established over a telephone network.

15 17. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to bill the user for the information.

18. The system as described in claim 17, wherein the controller computer has a fourth logic unit to track how long the information is delivered to the user and the third logic unit bills the user based upon how long the information is delivered.

20 19. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the database further stores information about a user account.

20. The system as described in claim 19, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to deduct an amount from the user account for the information.

25 21. The system as described in claim 19, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to track how long the information is delivered to the user and a fourth logic unit to deduct from the user account an amount based upon how long the information is delivered.

22. The system as described in claim 1, wherein the database further stores information about an account set up for the information provider.

30 23. The system as described in claim 22, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to credit an amount to the account when the information is delivered to the user.

24. The system as described in claim 22, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to track how long the information is delivered to the user and a fourth logic unit to credit to the account an amount based upon how long the information is delivered.

5 25. The system as described in claim 22, wherein the controller computer has a third logic unit to track how long the information is delivered to the user and a fourth logic unit to credit to the account an amount based upon how long the information is delivered minus a fee.

26. A method of recording information and delivering the information to a user, the method comprising:

10 establishing a first communications connection with an information provider;
recording and storing the information provided by the information provider over the first communications connection;
in response to the user selecting to receive the information, establishing a second communications connection with the user; and
15 delivering the information to the user over the second communications connection.

27. The method as described in claim 26, further comprising:
storing a description of the information provided by the information provider; and
delivering the description to the user.

28. The method as described in claim 27, further comprising:
20 establishing a first computer connection with an information provider computer; and
receiving the description from the information provider over the first computer connection.

29. The method as described in claim 27, further comprising:
establishing a second computer connection with a user computer, wherein the
25 description is delivered to the user via the second computer connection.

30. The method as described in claim 27, wherein the description is included in a list of information providers.

31. The method as described in claim 30, wherein the list of information providers is delivered to the user in response to a keyword search.

30 32. The method as described in claim 30, wherein the list of information providers is delivered to the user in response to a category selection.

33. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the first communications connection includes an audio connection.

34. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the first communications connection includes a video connection.

35. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the first communications connection is established over a computer network.

5 36. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the first communications connection is established over a telephone network.

37. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the second communications connection includes an audio connection.

10 38. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the second communications connection includes a video connection.

39. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the second communications connection is established over a computer network.

40. The method as described in claim 26, wherein the second communications connection is established over a telephone network.

15 41. A method of selling recorded information, the method comprising:
providing a description of the recorded information to a user;
in response to the user selecting to receive the recorded information, establishing a communications connection with the user;
delivering the recorded information to the user over the communications connection;
20 and
billing the user for the recorded information delivered to the user.

42. The method as described in claim 41, further comprising:
establishing a computer connection with a user computer, wherein the description of the recorded information is provided over the computer connection.

25 43. The method as described in claim 42, wherein the description is included in a list of information providers.

44. The method as described in claim 43, wherein the list of information providers is provided to the user in response to a keyword search.

30 45. The method as described in claim 43, wherein the list of information providers is provided to the user in response to a keyword search.

46. The method as described in claim 41, wherein the communications connection includes an audio connection.

47. The method as described in claim 41, wherein the communications connection includes a video connection.

48. The method as described in claim 41, wherein the communications connection is established over a computer network.

5 49. The method as described in claim 41, wherein the communications connection is established over a telephone network.

50. The method as described in claim 41, further comprising:
establishing a user account for the user, wherein billing the user includes deducting an amount from the user account.

10 51. The method as described in claim 50, further comprising:
tracking how long the information is delivered to the user, wherein the amount deducted from the user account is based upon how long the information is delivered.

52. The method as described in claim 41, wherein the recorded information and the description are provided by an information provider.

15 53. The method as described in claim 52, further comprising:
establishing an account for the information provider; and
crediting an amount to the account for the recorded information delivered to the user.

54. The method as described in claim 53, further comprising:
tracking how long the information is delivered to the user, wherein the amount
20 credited to the account is based upon how long the information is delivered.

55. The method as described in claim 53, further comprising:
tracking how long the information is delivered to the user, wherein the amount credited to the account is based upon how long the information is delivered minus a fee.

56. The method as described in claim 52, further comprising:
25 establishing a computer connection with the information provider, wherein the description is provided by the information provider over the computer connection.